

## REMARKS

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a brief telephone interview initiated by the Examiner.

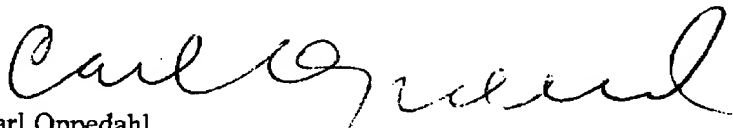
The Examiner indicated that if a claim were presented composed of the text of claim 1 together with the first paragraph of claim 3, such claim would be allowable.

To that end, this preliminary amendment is offered. In this preliminary amendment, new claim 7 is the text of claim 1 together with the first paragraph of claim 3. New claim 8 is the balance of claim 3. New claim 9 is based upon the language of claim 2.

Claims 1-6 remain pending.

It is hoped that in the first Office Action (not yet mailed), claims 7-9 may be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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